

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9750
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
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UNCLAS ATHENS 2850

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU, CY
SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS IN ATHENS ON VIENNA INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

1. UNSYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DE CUELLAR AND CHIEF GREEK
CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR PAPADOPOULOS, AND HIS PRINCIPAL ADVISORS,
DEPARTED ATHENS MARCH 29 AFTER BRIEF STOPOVERS HERE ENROUTE
TO VIENNA. IN BOTH CASES THEY MET WITH GOG OFFICIALS AND
CONSULTED ON THE NEXT SESSION OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

2. UNSYG SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE DE CUELLAR ARRIVED HERE ON
SUNDAY, MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS AND BRIEFED HIM
ON THE UPCOMING TALKS IN VIENNA. IN A PUBLIC STATEMENT
AFTER SEEING BITSIOS, DE CUELLAR SAID THAT HE WAS HOPEFUL
SOMETHING POSITIVE WOULD EMERGE FROM THE TALKS THIS TIME.
HE STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT EVERYTHING HINGED ON THE "GOODWILL"
AND "GOOD FAITH" OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED. BITSIOS, FOR HIS PART,
NOTED HIS APPRECIATION FOR THE BRIEFING AND EXPRESSED
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GRATITUDE FOR DE CUELLAR'S IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE
FEBRUARY 12 MAKARIOS-DENKTASH ENCOUNTER IN NICOSIA.

3. ON MARCH 28 THE GREEK CYPRIOTS MET FOR ABOUT AN HOUR WITH
PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS AND HIS ADVISERS. THE NEXT DAY
PAPADOPOULOS AND HIS GROUP HAD A SESSION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
BITSIOS. HE ALSO CALLED BRIEFLY ON GEORGE MAVROS, THE LEADER

OF THE PRINCIPAL OPPOSITION PARTY, THE UNION OF THE DEMOCRATIC CENTER

4. IN HIS PUBLIC COMMENTS TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES ON HIS ARRIVAL IN ATHENS, PAPADOPOULOS SPOKE OF HIS INTENTION IN VIENNA TO "DISCUSS IN DEPTH ALL FACETS OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE FOUR PRINCIPLES AGREED UPON DURING THE LAST MEETING HELD BETWEEN PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AND MR DENKTASH IN NICOSIA." HE ADDED THAT IF BOTH SIDES SHOW "GOODWILL", THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF STARTING A SUBSTANTIVE DIALOGUE WHICH COULD LEAD TO A VIABLE AND JUST SOLUTION.

5. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, AFTER HIS MEETING WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS, EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE BRIEFING AND STATED HIS SINCERE HOPE THAT THEIR MISSION IN VIENNA WOULD SUCCEED. FOLLOWING HIS SESSION WITH THE GREEK CYPRIOTS THE NEXT DAY, FOREIGN

MINISTER BITSIOS UNDERLINED THAT THE GOG WAS IN FULL ACCORD WITH THE LINE BEING PURSUED BY THE GREEK CYPRIOT DELEGATION, AND REAFFIRMED HIS HOPE THAT THE VIENNA TALKS WOULD LEAD TO A SOLUTION. PAPADOPOULOS SAID THAT "WE HAVE THE OBLIGATION TO HOPE THAT THE VIENNA TALKS WILL LEAD TO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS."
KUBISCH

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